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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/194,317	11/24/1998	SIMON J. POWERS	36-1298	3060

7590 06/10/2002

NIXON & VANDERHYE
1100 NORTH GLEBE ROAD
8TH FLOOR
ARLINGTON, VA 22201

EXAMINER

ANYA, CHARLES E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2151

DATE MAILED: 06/10/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/194,317

Applicant(s)

POWERS ET AL.

Examiner

Charles E Anya

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 – 6 and 8 – 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,285,380 B1 to Perlin et. al. in view of Durward et. al.

As to claim 1, Perlin teaches Entity (LAN 101, LAN 102, LAN 103), a Plurality of associated models of the entity (Animation Engine 20, Body, Behavior Engine 30, Mind), Rule Model Manager (Animation Engine 20), Conceptual Model (Geometry 10), Dynamic Model Manager (Behavior Engine 30, Mind1, Mind2, Mind3), a Dynamic Model (Mind1, Mind2, Mind3, Behavior Engine 30), One Client (User), a Visual Model (Actor), Communication Channels (WAN 100). Perlin is silent with reference to a client/server and virtual environment.

Durward teaches a Client/Server (Computer 42, Central Control Unit 14) and Virtual Environment (Virtual Reality System). It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Durward to the system of Perlin. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to provide a controlled access to server resources.

As to claim 2, Perlin teaches the communication channels to include at least one channel that transmits messages in unreliable manner (WAN 100).

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As to claim 3, Perlin teaches a Set distributed dynamic model (Mind1, Mind2, Mind3, Behavior Engine 30), a Central Environment Manager (Blackboard 40).

The Examiner is aware that Perlin is silent with reference to a plurality of servers, but it is for inherent for a world area network to consist of multiple servers.

As to claim 4, Perlin is silent with reference to a plurality of zone managers and a zone.

Durward teaches a plurality of zone managers (Virtual Space 169), a Zone (Visual Relevant Space 200, Visual Relevant Space 204). It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Durward to the system of Perlin. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order allow virtual objects to better manage position and movement.

As to claim 5, Perlin is silent with reference to an arrangement of starting and closing of a zone manage.

Durward teaches an arrangement of starting and closing of a zone manager (Graphics Primitives 199A-F). It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Durward to the system of Perlin. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order controller access to virtual space.

As to claim 6, Perlin is silent with reference to the client being arranged to establish connections to the zone manager.

Durward teaches client as being arranged to establish connections to the zone manager (Visual Priority Spaces). It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Durward to

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the system of Perlin. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in order to determining update frequency.

As to claim 8, see the rejection of claim 1.

As to claim 9, claim 1 meets claim 9 except for communication channels.

Perlin teaches Communication Channels (WAN 100, LAN 101, LAN 102, LAN 103).

As to claim 10, see the rejection of claim 1.

As to claim 11, Perlin is silent with reference to a computer program, a computer readable data carrier and a server apparatus.

Durward teaches a Computer Program (Virtual Space Data), a Computer Readable Data Carrier (Database Memory 104) and a Server Apparatus (Central Control Unit 14).

It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of Durward to the system of Perlin.

One would have been motivated to make such a modification so as to provide server services.

As to claim 12, Perlin teaches a Client Apparatus (User, User Interface 50).

Perlin is silent with reference to a computer program, a computer readable data carrier.

It is inherent that the system of Perlin must have a computer program and a computer readable data carrier.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No.

6,285,380 to Perlin in view of Durward as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view

of applicant's admitted prior art (hereinafter referred to as APA, page 3 - 4).

As to claim 7, Perlin as applied to claim 1 is silent with reference to a multi-cast address.

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APA teaches a Multi-cast address (Multicast Network, page 3, Ln. 27 – 33, page 4, Ln. 3 - 9). It would have been obvious to apply the teaching of APA to the system of Perlin. One would have been motivated to make such a modification in view of the suggestion of APA that changes to an area may be broadcast and clients interested in that area may listen to the address for update.

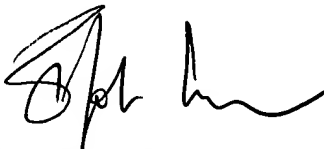
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E Anya whose telephone number is (703) 305-3411. The examiner can normally be reached on M – F (First Friday Off) from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Charles E Anya
Examiner
Art Unit 2151



ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
PRIMARY EXAMINER